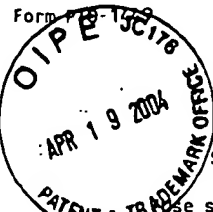


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

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

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		WO 97/26742	7/24/1997	PCT			X	
		JP 6-504176	5/12/1994	Japan			X	

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		1.	Japanese Office Action dated March 23, 2004 issued in a counterpart application, namely, Appln. No. 2001-527474.
		2.	Proceedings of the 1998 IEICE General Conference, March 1998.

EXAMINER 	DATE CONSIDERED 2-17-05
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.